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USSOCOM United States Special Operations Command Care Coalition Wounded Warrior Reintegration Panel





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Reintegration

Reintegration is the process of returning a service member to limited or full duty following the Recovery Phase and either concurrent with or following the Rehabilitation phase, and will usually include processing through the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) and completion of service specific requirements for approval to continue on active duty if the service member has been found to have a service disqualifying condition.

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Reintegration Panel

Purpose

To share, from the perspective of the Reintegrated service member and his family, the personal decisions and actions required, as well as the challenges and limitations faced, when continuing on active duty following disqualifying catastrophic injury so that commanders, medical providers, and others interacting with catastrophically injured service members are aware of the issues faced and can provide proper support.

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Service Regulations

The following Regulations outline the eligibility requirements and processes for service members found unfit by the Physical Evaluation Board to continue their active duty careers:

- Army Regulation 635-40, Chapter 6
- SECNAVINST 1850.4E, Enclosure 6
- MARCORPSEPMAN, Chapter 8
- Air Force Instruction 36-3212, Chapter 6

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Advocate Support to Reintegration

- Monitor and assist Service Member during IDES
- Explain options for Continuation of Service
- Work with Service Member and chain of Command to facilitate continuation of service member if desired
- Move to transition phase if service member does not desire or is denied continuation of service

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Case Study

April 2008 - 27 year old service member underwent below the knee amputation subsequent to GSW suffered during combat

April 2008 - January 2010 - completes recovery phase and shows remarkable process during rehabilitation phase

January 2010 - After completion of Recovery phase and concurrent with Rehabilitation phase, service member is found fit for duty and leans toward accepting PEB finding

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Case Study (cont'd)

January 2010 - advocate explains implications of accepting fit for duty finding; service member decides to appeal finding and pursuit COAD. Care Coalition leadership prepares position paper on findings, coordinates for Senior SOF leader to appear at appeal with service member

March 2010 - Successful appeal, service member found unfit by PEB. Service member applies for continuation on active duty and is approved.

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Case Study (cont'd)

May 2011 - after continued issues with residual limb, service member determines that he will not be able to progress beyond support and instructor roles; re-enters IDES process

March 2013 - service member medically retired

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